FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Sara George, coordinator, Outstanding Young Artist Competition, Friends of Music of Bethlehem, [sgeorge@cscinc.org](mailto:sgeorge@cscinc.org); 610-437-6000, x 2101

**Outstanding Young Artist Competition Application Due February 28, 2018**

Friends of Music of Bethlehem invites voice students up to age 20 and instrumentalists up to age 19 to apply to audition for the Outstanding Young Artist Competition. Video auditions and applications are due **February 28, 2018.**

The winner(s) will be presented in a formal public recital at 3:00 pm, **Sunday, April 29, 2018, a**t Wesley United Methodist Church. The winner will receive a cash award of $600. In the event of a tie, the judges may recommend a joint recital with shorter playing times and the prices divided accordingly.

Individual performers who wish to audition must be prepared to present a 25-minute recital of music selected from the standard repertoire should they win the audition. Memorization is strongly encouraged, but not required. A short encore should also be available. Competitors must provide their own accompanists.

See the FOM website [www.friends-of-music.org](http://www.friends-of-music.org) for an application and instructions. Or go to <https://goo.gl/forms/stbK3yWIbT31JO7y1>

Competitors must reside in or study in Lehigh or Northampton County. For the audition, competitors should be prepared to perform any of the selections chosen for the recital. All competitors receive written evaluations from the judges.

Friends of Music of Bethlehem is a 501-c-3 service organization that has promoted musical education and appreciation in the Lehigh Valley since 1928. The organization holds the Outstanding Young Artist competition annually, offers scholarships to promising young artists, provides gifts to school program for music and makes donations to area libraries to support music-related collections.

For additional information, contact Sara George during business hours at 610-437-6000, x 2101.